

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the College Park City Council
Wednesday, November 12, 2014
7:30 p.m. – 8:23 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Fellows; Councilmembers Kabir, Wojahn, Brennan, Dennis, Stulich, Day, Mitchell and Hew (arrived at 7:33 p.m.).

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Steve Groh, Acting City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Terry Schum, Director of Planning; Steve Halpern, City Engineer; Bob Stumpff, Director of Public Works; Cole Holocker, Student Liaison.

Mayor Fellows opened the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. and Councilmember Mitchell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Brennan and seconded by Councilmember Mitchell to approve the minutes of the Special Session on October 21, 2014 and the Regular Meeting on October 28, 2014. The motion passed 7 – 0 – 0.

Announcements:

Councilmember Kabir discussed the November meeting of the North College Park Citizens Association to be held on Thursday at Davis Hall.

Councilmember Wojahn recognized Emily Adams and thanked her for her service to the community. He knew her before she worked for the University, and she now works for the UMD Office of Community Engagement, but unfortunately, she is moving away. She has been involved with the College Park Community Foundation and with several events such as the Dream Team, Good Neighbor Day, College Park Day, and the College Park Tour events. She has embodied the goal of being a connection between the University and the community.

Ms. Adams thanked the Council and made personal remarks.

Councilmember Brennan announced the Berwyn District Civic Association would meet on November 20 at 8:00 p.m. at Fealy Hall. He thanked the residents and committee members who came to the Neighborhood Quality of Life Public Forum on November 6.

Councilmember Dennis thanked Emily Adams for her work in Lakeland with Xtreme Teens and the greater College Park community. He announced the Lakeland Civic Association would meet on Thursday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the College Park Community Center.

Councilmember Stulich thanked the members of the Public Outreach Committee for their efforts on the NQOL Public Forum.

Councilmember Day was pleased to see all the parts of our community represented at the NQOL Public Forum. He also thanked Emily Adams for her service and said she will be hard to replace.

Councilmember Hew also thanked Emily for everything she has done.

Councilmember Mitchell thanked Emily for her work on the ITGA program in South Carolina.

Mayor Fellows commented on the Veterans Day event yesterday. He also thanked Emily for her work in the community and discussed his time knowing her.

Proclamations: Mayor Fellows read the proclamation for Small Business Saturday, which is on November 29, 2014

Amendments to the Agenda: None.

City Manager's Report: Acting City Manager Groh reminded everyone that the leaf collection schedule is updated on the website every Friday; the number of subscribers on Constant Contact is 1032; next week's Worksession begins at 7:00 p.m.

Student Liaison's Report: Mr. Holocker echoed the positive comments on the NQOL Public Forum; he extended an invitation to attend any civic association meetings; he participated in the celebrity waiter event at Ledo's; he has been working with the Office of Student Conduct to address resident concerns with how the referral process is working; this weekend UMD is hosting an 8:00 p.m. home game, IFC tailgating begins at 5:00 p.m.

Comments from the Audience on Non-Agenda items: None.

Presentations: Mayor Fellows presented Prince George's County Beautification Awards to the College Park Veterans Memorial (accepted by VMIC Chair Doris Davis, Boy Scout Troop 740 and the City Department of Public Works) and Friends Community School (accepted by Larry Clements).

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion was made by Councilmember Dennis and seconded by Councilmember Mitchell to adopt the Consent Agenda which consisted of the following:

- 14-G-114** Award of a two-year extension of CP-06-04, Right-Of-Way Grass Mowing Contract, to ValleyCrest Landscape, in an amount not to exceed \$46,497.78 per year for 2015 and 2016, for a total not to exceed \$92,995.56, and authorization for the City Manager to sign the contract. *(Requires a super majority)*
- 14-G-115** Approval of Education Advisory Committee Recommendations for FY '15 Education Grants to Hollywood Elementary, Paint Branch Elementary and Parkdale High School for \$7,500 each, and to Berwyn Heights Elementary, Cherokee Lane Elementary and Hyattsville Middle School for \$2,500 each, for a total of \$30,000. [Additional awards are pending.]

The motion passed 8 – 0 – 0.

ACTION ITEMS

14-G-116 Council Action On The Petition Request To Remove Traffic Calming (i.e., not to replace the Pavement Striping) In The 7300 Block Of Radcliffe Drive

A motion was made by Councilmember Day and seconded by Councilmember Stullich to approve the petition request not to reinstall traffic calming striping in the 7300 Block of Radcliffe Drive.

There were no comments from the audience due to the earlier public hearing.

Councilmember Day said we know that there are some issues on that street and we will look at other ways to address them, but that the striping is no longer needed.

Councilmember Stullich said it is clear from the testimony that most people feel that there is a speeding problem, which is borne out by the traffic study, but that the striping does not have much of an impact. There was a petition not to reinstall the striping after WSSC repaved the road, but there is concern about speeding. We will continue to explore other options, including occasional speed enforcement.

The motion passed 8 – 0 – 0.

14-G-117 Motion to voice no objection to an application by Dana M. Lee, President/Owner for a Class B, Beer and Wine License for the use of DKL Investments, Inc., t/a Backyard Sports Grill, 7313 A-B Baltimore Avenue, College Park, subject to the applicant entering into a Property Use Agreement with the City.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Day that the City Council voice no objection to the application for transfer of a Class B, Beer and Wine License for the use of DKL Investments, Inc., t/a Backyard Sports Grill, located at 7313 A-B Baltimore Avenue, College Park, Maryland, subject to the applicant entering into a Property Use Agreement (PUA) with the City of College Park in substantially the form as attached; to authorize the City Manager to sign the PUA; and to authorize staff to testify to the City's position before the Board of License Commissioners.

Councilmember Stullich said Mr. and Mrs. Lee, owners of the Backyard Sports Grill, have applied to the BOLC for the transfer of this license. The City Council met with the applicant last week and discussed a draft PUA. In the past when this location was under different ownership there were problems for the community due to overserving and patrons being a danger to themselves and to others. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are sincere in expressing their different intentions

for their operation at this location. The PUA includes provisions for entertainment and ID scanning devices.

The motion carried 8 – 0 – 0.

14-G-118 Approval of a contract, subject to approval of the City Attorney, to Hitachi Data Systems for expansion of CCTV/LPR along the trolley trail between Lakeland and Berwyn in an amount not to exceed \$125,000 funded by a grant award from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dennis and seconded by Councilmember Brennan that the City Council authorize the City Manager to extend the contract with Hitachi Data Systems, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000, to be funded by a grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, in order to provide security cameras along the Trolley Trail from Pierce Avenue to the Jack Perry Plaza at Berwyn Road, and a license plate recognition camera at Berwyn Road and Baltimore Avenue; and, that this contract extension be reviewed and approved by the City Attorney.

City Staff submitted an application to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) for a \$125,000 grant to extend the City's security camera system along the Trolley Trail in the Lakeland and Berwyn neighborhoods, and to install a license plate recognition (LPR) camera on Berwyn Road at Baltimore Avenue. The GOCCP awarded a grant for this project and we have received a proposal from the City's current security camera system contractor, Hitachi Data Systems (formerly Avrio RMS). This grant was awarded by GOCCP to provide closed circuit cameras along the Trolley Trail between Jack Perry Plaza and Pierce Avenue; and to provide a license plate recognition camera on Berwyn Road, inbound from Baltimore Avenue. The proposed concept is to use programmable cameras at five (5) locations along the trail which will not be actively monitored, but would normally be record-only cameras. The proposal is to use five (5) Pan-Tilt-Zoom (PTZ) cameras set in predetermined scanning patterns to monitor area around the camera installations. The data that is collected would be stored on-site rather than being transmitted to an operations center. Wireless data connections would be provided at each camera to allow authorized police to access and search the camera data. Police could also take control of the cameras to scan the area. As the cameras would be located within the University of Maryland Police and Prince George's County Police concurrent jurisdiction area, both police agencies would be allowed access to data. This proposal includes the installation of dedicated utility poles at each camera location, to avoid lengthy delays seeking permission for joint use of Pepco utility poles. The installation cost of this system is \$125,000. Recurring costs would include monthly wireless connectivity costs of approximately \$50 per each of the proposed 6 camera locations (5 PTZ + 1 LPR) at \$50/month = \$300/month. After the warranty period these would need to be added to the maintenance contract the City has with Hitachi, estimated not to exceed an additional \$6,000.00 per year.

There were no comments from the audience.

Councilmember Brennan said this item speaks to one of the strategies developed by the Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee. The Berwyn community was hard-hit last year with

40 petty events which are mostly crimes of opportunity. It is important to remind residents about safety precautions. He asked what the retention period is for the data that is stored? Mr. Ryan said it is generally 90 days.

Councilmember Dennis also discussed safety measures that residents should take and reminded everyone that they are additional eyes and ears for our public safety endeavors.

The motion passed 8 – 0 – 0.

14-G-119 Approval of City comments on an Historic Area Work Permit application for 4618 College Avenue

A motion was made by Councilmember Stullich and seconded by Councilmember Day that the Council forward comments to the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission regarding a Historic Area Work Permit application for the Holbrook House located at 4618 College Avenue. The following should be addressed as part of the application: 1) Install new timber framing to contain the gravel driveway in the front yard. The width of the driveway in the front yard shall not exceed 11 feet on the subject property. 2) Indicate the location of the relocated shed on the site plan. 3) Revise the landscape plan and plant list to reduce the number of Honey Locust trees in the rear yard to 1 tree, replace the Pin Oaks in the rear yard with smaller understory trees, and substitute Boxwoods in the front yard with other plants such as False Cypress, Mugo Pine, Birds Nest Blue Spruce or Japanese Holly. 4) Replace the two non-historic second-story windows on the front façade with windows that are consistent with the historic character of the dwelling.

Councilmember Stullich said the Holbrook House was constructed in 1927 in the Old Town neighborhood and represents one of two known examples of the Alhambra model of the Sears, Roebuck and Company mail-order homes in Prince George's County. The property was designated as an historic site in 1992 and is a contributing property to the Old Town College Park Historic District. The applicant proposes to convert the existing single-family home to a rooming house for up to 9 guests, which is a permitted use in the R-18 zone. Changing the use however requires compliance with commercial driveway and parking standards as well as the requirements of the Landscape Manual, which the applicant is unable to fully meet. The applicant met with the Old Town College Park Local Advisory Committee on October 30, 2014 and the County Historic Preservation Commission hearing date is November 18, 2014. A Departure from Parking Design Standards and Alternative Compliance from certain requirements in the Landscape Manual are required and these applications have been filed with the City and are scheduled to be heard in December by the Advisory Planning Commission.

There were no comments from the audience or the Council.

The motion passed 8 – 0 – 0.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Mitchell said that at tomorrow's PGCMA meeting the City of College Park would be recognized for participation in the Maryland Smart Energies Community Program.

Councilmember Brennan extended congratulations to the Assistant City Manager Bill Gardiner and his wife on the delivery of their new baby girl.

Councilmember Wojahn said the Council of Governments is interested in affordable workforce housing and he will keep an eye on those efforts since this goal is also part of the Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee strategies. On Monday he and Councilmember Kabir will host a meeting for anyone interested in reviewing the proposal for sidewalks on Hollywood Road west of Rhode Island Avenue at 7:00 p.m. at Davis Hall.

Councilmember Kabir discussed a city-wide winter coat drive, "One Warm Coat" and asked if the City would pay the \$50 registration fee to participate. Public Works staff will put boxes in City buildings. This will be added to the next agenda.

Mayor Fellows attended the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Steering Committee meeting at COG headquarters and heard a presentation by Garth Beall about environmental impacts of the FBI development at Greenbelt Station. Overall, the presentation indicated a positive environmental impact on the streams, if the project is approved.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Councilmember Brennan and seconded by Councilmember Dennis to adjourn the meeting. With a vote of 8 – 0 – 0, Mayor Fellows adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Janeen S. Miller, CMC
City Clerk

Date
Approved